

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 6, wherein the glycosaminoglycan is selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitin, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, heparin, heparan sulfate and keratan sulfate.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 6, wherein the temperature is maintained at 1 to 37°C during ultraviolet ray irradiation.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 6, wherein the ultraviolet ray ~~to be irradiated has~~ is at a wavelength of 250 to 450 nm.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a purified low molecular weight glycosaminoglycan having a molecular weight of 200 to 1,000,000 Da, which comprises irradiating a crude glycosaminoglycan containing contaminants with an ultraviolet ray to lower the molecular weight of the glycosaminoglycan and simultaneously decompose and remove the contaminants.

Claim 7 (New): The method according to claim 3, wherein said glycosaminoglycan is a chondroitin sulfate selected from the group consisting of chondroitin sulfate A, chondroitin sulfate C, chondroitin sulfate D, and chondroitin sulfate E.

Claim 8 (New): The method according to claim 4, wherein said temperature is maintained at 10 to 25°C during ultraviolet ray irradiation.

Claim 9 (New): The method according to claim 6, wherein the molecular weight of said low molecular weight glycosaminoglycan is 4,000 to 400,000 Da.

Claim 10 (New): The method according to claim 6, wherein the molecular weight of said low molecular weight glycosaminoglycan is 4,000 to 20,000 Da.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-2 have been canceled.

Claims 3-6 have been amended.

Claims 7-10 have been added.

The amendment of Claim 6 and new Claims 9 and 10 are supported by page 14, lines 3-5 of the original specification. New Claim 7 and the amendment of Claim 3 are supported by the specification at page 6, lines 21-25. The amendment of Claims 4 and 5 and new Claim 8 are supported by the specification at page 8, line 24 to page 9, line 17 and page 10, line 23 to page 11, line 4.

No new matter has been added by the present amendment.